

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/013807

Box No. I Basis of this opinion

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
☐ This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material
☐ a sequence listing
☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material
☐ in written format
☐ in computer readable form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing
☐ contained in the international application as filed.
☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

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Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;
citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)

Claims 1-21 YES

Claims _____ NO

Inventive step (IS)

Claims 1-21 YES

Claims _____ NO

Industrial applicability (IA)

Claims 1-21 YES

Claims _____ NO

2. Citations and explanations:

See supplemental sheet

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Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:

See supplemental sheet

Supplemental Box

In case the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient.

Continuation of:

Boxes V and VIII

1. The invention relates to a method and an apparatus for synchronously operating interacting devices.

Such methods/apparatuses are disclosed, for example, in the Offenlegungsschrift EP 0 507 955 A1 or EP 1 052 560 A1. In that case, the devices are forced to synchronously interact using synchronization signals, for example a common clock signal.

2. It is an object of the present invention to specify an alternative method/apparatus in which signals with different clock rates can also be synchronized.

According to the invention, the object is achieved by means of the characterizing part of claims 1 and 12, to be precise by virtue of the fact that the signals which are at different frequencies and are associated with the different control systems are interpolated to a common system clock, thus making it possible to synchronize the signals.

3. This step of interpolating to a common clock signal is not disclosed in, or suggested by, any of the cited prior art documents.

4. It shall be noted that synchronization devices have already been disclosed in EP 0 507 955 A1, for

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Supplemental Box

example, and thus belong to the preamble. In addition, it is not clearly evident from claims 1 and 12 that it is the control signals which are interpolated to the common clock and not the clocks of the individual control systems.

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

TRANSLATION
PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

To:

Date of mailing (day/month/year) **See form PCT/ISA/210**

Applicant's or agent's file reference

21141.6/04

FOR FURTHER ACTION

See paragraph 2 below

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/013807

International filing date (day/month/year)

04.12.2004

Priority date (day/month/year)

09.12.2003

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC

G05B19/418

Applicant

KUKA ROBOTER GMBH

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☐ Box No. II Priority
- ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- ☒ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. **FURTHER ACTION**

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/EP

Authorized officer

Facsimile No.

Telephone No.

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Box No. 1

Basis of this opinion

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citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-21	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-21	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-21	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations:

See supplemental sheet

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